Provision succour by Airlines to victims of natural calamities

5840. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any instructions have been issued to different airlines to provide succour to victims of natural and other calamities; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any of the airlines provided relief and succour to the victims during the recent earthquake in Latur and Osmanabad districts in Maharashtra; and

(c) if so, the names of such carriers alongwith the services rendered by them, the details of flights, etc. organised?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Air India was given instructions to airlift on its services free of cost relief material donated by individual and voluntary organizations, in the wake of earth quake in Latur and Osmanabad districts of Maharashtra. Similar services were also provided by Indian Airlines.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Serving of liquor in domestic flights

5841. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the perceptions of MPs and other in 'Indian Express' on 21st March, 1994 as to whether liquor should be permitted in domestic flights;

(b) if so, what is Government's decision in this regard, alongwith the details of the actual services of liquor by public and private sector airlines in the country;

(c) whether in the name of hospitality, the private airlines are converting air passengers into alcoholics; and

(c) whether Government propose to put a blanket ban on serving of liquor and smoking in India in domestic flights?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Indian Airlines and Vayudoot do not serve liquor on their domestic flights as a matter of policy. Liquor service is available only on international flights of Indian Airlines which is also an industry wide practice. The Aircraft Rules, 1937 do not prohibit serving of liquor on flights. While serving liquor to passengers on their flights, it is expected that air taxi operators would do so in moderation. No smoking is allowed on any domestic flight. There is no proposal at present to ban service of liquor on the flights of air taxis.

Status of aviation in India

5842. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:
SHRI NARAIN PRASAD GUPTA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the precise status of aviation in India following the repealing of the Air Corporation Act; and

(b) the names of the air taxis operators and the scheduled airlines alongwith their fleet, staff, finance and the areas of operations?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURSIM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) After repeal of the Air Corporation Act, 1953 any operator, subject to observance of prescribed conditions can become scheduled air transport operator alongwith Air India, Indian Airlines and Vayudoot.

(b) Names of scheduled airlines and Air Taxi operators alongwith their fleet staff finance and the area of operation are listed in Statement I, II and III.